



## PEARL HARBOR NAVAL SHIPYARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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### **Pearl Harbor Shipyard Clears Out Tons of Clutter**

**By Marshall Fukuki**  
**Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs**

**PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii** – The fifth in a series of all-hands cleanups at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard April 30 resulted in nearly 450 pallets of scrap material and equipment being removed from the command.

Capt. Richard Kitchens, commanding officer of Naval Station Pearl Harbor, praised the effort, calling it a “fantastic job” by the Shipyard team.

Electrical Shop general foreman Robert Lucia, when asked what sort of material was being hauled away from behind his shop building, answered, “Everything and anything.”

The area had become a collection point since last October, he explained. Awaiting pickup for disposal or recycling were cabling, dismantled wooden shipping crates, lockers, old furniture, scrap metal, and antiquated equipment. Among the more unusual items were a radar dome and a barbeque grill.

The quarterly cleanups known as Hui Malama – Hawaiian for “Take Care Team” – are part of the Shipyard’s waterfront transformation and vision to become an outstanding naval shipyard by 2012. The cleanups also prepare the way for implementing an ambitious, long-range modernization plan that includes the construction of new buildings.

The first cleanup was initiated last July and since then “we’ve cleared away tons -- thousands of tons – from the Shipyard,” said Kevin Liborio, Production Resources Department manager for Lean and safety.

To illustrate his point, he gestured toward the waterfront area directly across from the Electrical Shop. Less than a year ago, multi-story staging and other structures filled the area. Today, much of what once blocked the skyline is gone.

“Before you couldn’t even see the blue (portal) cranes,” he said. “Now we have space for a new building.”

Shipyard Commander Capt. Gregory Thomas commended Liborio for managing the cleanups. “Thank you for your leadership,” he said. “Your enthusiasm, positive attitude, and bias towards action brighten my day and help make this the best place I’ve ever served.”

Liborio credited a combined effort by management, the unions and “most of all, the workers” for the positive results of Hui Malama. “We’re headed in the right direction,” he said.

According to Liborio, many mechanics hang on to something because they think they might need it sometime in the future. However, there are costs involved in storage and taking up space in an area that could be put to better use, he noted. “I’m not saying ‘Throw everything away,’ but we have to decide what do we really need to keep,” he said.

As for how much more outdated material still needs to be cleared out of the Shipyard, Liborio estimated, “We’re about 50 percent there.”

The last Hui Malama turned up material from when the Shipyard last worked on USS *Seadragon* (SSN 584), he said. “That was in the 1980’s ... so you know we’re getting closer to the bottom of the pile.”

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is the largest industrial employer in the state of Hawaii with a combined civilian and military workforce of about 4,700. It has an operating budget of \$620 million, of which more than \$390 million is payroll for civilian employees. The Shipyard, strategically located in the Pacific Ocean, is a full-service naval shipyard and regional maintenance center for the U.S. Navy's surface ships and submarines.

For more information on Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, visit <http://www.phnsy.navy.mil>.